

**REMARKS**

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 30, 2004, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-40 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-11 and 23-31 have been allowed. Method claims 12-20, 22, 32-38, and 40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 21 and 39 are objected to.<sup>1</sup>

The Examiner reasons that although claim 12 mentions a database, there is no physical transformation of physical subject matter, tangible or intangible. Claims 22 and 29 have been amended to recite a computer as indicated above. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment resolves the § 101 issues raised by the Examiner. Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of this application.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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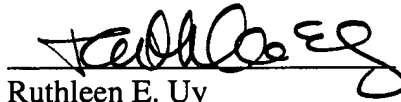
<sup>1</sup> The status of the claims was clarified during a telephonic discussion between Examiner Dixon and the undersigned Applicant's representative on November 19, 2004.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
Appln. No.: 09/589,037

Attorney Docket No.: A8741

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 30, 2004